per State of Forest Report, 1991) and that of recorded forest area is 28.9%.

Japan's assistance for completing forest projects

205. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in February 1994 Japan announced to provide assistance amounting to crores of rupees for completing the forest projects in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what is the quantum of this amount together with the names of the forest projects on which the same would be spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) A Fact Finding Mission of the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) Japan held a meeting in New Delhi on 4th February, 1994 with the representatives of the Government of Himachal Pradesh and Ministry of Environment and Forests to discuss the feasibility of a forestry project of Himachal Pradesh. The OECF, Japan did not indicate any commitment for providing assistance for the project.

Constitution of Paryavaran Vahinis in Gujarat

206. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of districts in Gujarat where Paryavaran Vahinis have been constituted so far;

(b) the details of the work undertaken and the success achieved so far;

(c) the assistance provided by the Central Government to the Gujarat State for this purpose, district-wise;

(d) whether more districts are proposed to be included under this scheme for the protection of environment and forests;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Paryavaran Vahinis have been constituted in three districts out of the four districts selected in Gujarat so far.

(b) No specific report has been received about the details of the work undertaken so far.

(c) Financial assistance given to the State Government district-wise is as follows:—

Ahmedabad	Rs. 57,500
Valsad.....	Rs. 57,500
Vadodara.....	Rs. 57,500
Dangs	Rs. 23,500

in Dangs the second instalment has not been released as the Vahini is yet to be constituted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The additional districts would be selected on the basis of incidence of pollution and density of forests and tribal population.

(f) Does not arise.

Pollution in Rivers

207. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all the small and big rivers, including the Yamuna, flowing through the West Uttar Pradesh, are heavily polluted by the untreated effluents being discharged into these rivers by the industrial units, especially the sugar mills, distilleries, paper mills and chemical factories;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the water of these rivers has become unusable for drinking as well as